



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, April 22, 2008

For Information Contact Public Affairs
SANDY RAYNOR
Telephone: (602) 514-7625
Cell: (602) 525-2681

MEXICAN CITIZEN SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON FOR AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT

PHOENIX – Rosalio Cervantes-Sanchez, 44, of Mexico and living in Phoenix, was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge Neil V. Wake to 54 months in federal prison for Illegal Re-Entry After Deportation and Aggravated Identity Theft. Cervantes-Sanchez pleaded guilty on September 18, 2007.

Cervantes Sanchez, a Mexican citizen illegally present in the U.S., was deported to Mexico on January 6, 1994, after serving 21 months in prison for a conviction for distribution of controlled substances. He later returned illegally to the U.S. and assumed the identity of a U.S. citizen. Cervantes-Sanchez used the victim's social security number, date of birth, and name to obtain a driver's license, a U.S. passport, a mortgage, and health benefits through the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS.)

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Office of the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The prosecution was handled by Tracey A. Bardorf, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-07-00405-PHX-NVW
RELEASE NUMBER: 2008-095(Cervantes-Sanchez)

#

For more information on the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Arizona, visit <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/az/>